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THE SANITARY ENGINEERING PROBLEMS OF WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL IN NEW YORK CITY¹

THE Section on Public Health of the New York Academy of Medicine is formed at a peculiarly opportune time. Never before has sanitary information of a reliable, authentic character been so much desired by the public, nor so difficult for the public to obtain.

Our great universities have, for the most part, failed to recognize the vast popular and educational value which would attach to the establishment of adequate facilities for teaching sanitary science, hygiene, public health or preventive medicine, as that body of knowledge which relates to the prevention of disease is variously termed, and have left this kind of teaching largely to the newspapers and to the general practitioner of medicine. Unfortunately, physicians do not always appreciate their importance as sanitary teachers.

It is in consequence of this that vast stores of scientific facts which are being constantly collected, and which bear upon the causes and ways of preventing disease,

¹ Address delivered at the opening of a Section on Public Health of the New York Academy of Medicine, January 8, 1907.